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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

PATENT

In the Application of: )  
Lawton *et al.* )  
Serial No.: 10/054,354 ) Art Unit: 1645  
Filed: January 22, 2002 ) Examiner: V. Ford  
For: Compositions and Methods for Detection ) Conf. No. 9249  
of *Ehrlichia canis* and *Ehrlichia chaffeensis* Antibodies ) Atty. Dckt. 00-1278B

REQUEST FOR ORAL HEARING

Mail Stop: Appeal Brief-Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Appellants respectfully request an oral hearing in the above-mentioned appeal. A check for one thousand dollars (\$1,000) is enclosed. It is believed that no other fee is due in connection with this filing; however, if an additional fee is due the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 13-2490.

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Related appeals have been filed in U.S. Application 10/054,647, filed January 22, 2002 and U.S. Application 09/765,739 filed January 18, 2001. Appellants respectfully request that the oral hearings for these three applications be consolidated into one hearing.

Date: 3-29-05

By:

Respectfully submitted,



**Lisa M.W. Hillman, PhD**

Reg. No. 43,673